

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claim set to read as follows:

1 – 13 (withdrawn)

14. (currently amended) An isolated protein having the ability to bind to the light chains of immunoglobulins, wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a protein consisting essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(b) a protein consisting essentially of the amino acid sequence of at least one of the domains B1, B2, B3 or B4 of (a) wherein,

(i) domain B1 is comprised of from amino acid 5 to amino acid 80 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(ii) domain B2 is comprised of from amino acid 81 to amino acid 152 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(iii) domain B3 is comprised of from amino acid 153 to amino acid 224 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(iv) domain B4 is comprised of from amino acid 225 to amino acid 296 of SEQ ID NO: 1; and

(c) a protein consisting essentially of the sequence of multiple[s] domains selected from one or more of [or mixtures of] the domains [of] B1, B2, B3 and [or] B4 of (b).

15. (currently amended) An isolated hybrid protein consisting essentially of one or more of the B1-B4 domains according to claim 14 which bind to the light chains in immunoglobulins of all classes, and domains which bind to heavy chains of immunoglobulin G.

16. (pending) A hybrid protein according to claim 15, wherein the domains which bind to heavy chains of immunoglobulin G are chosen from among:

- (i) the C1- and C2- domains in protein G, wherein domain C1 is comprised of from amino acid 303 to amino acid 357 of protein G and domain C2 is comprised of from amino acid 373 to amino acid 427 of protein G;
- (ii) the A-, B- and C1- domains in protein H wherein domain A is comprised of from amino acid 42 to amino acid 121 of protein H, domain B is comprised of from amino acid 122 to amino acid 158 of protein H, and domain C1 is comprised of from amino acid 159 to amino acid 200 of protein H;
- (iii) the A-, B1-, B2- and S domains in protein M1, wherein domain A is comprised of from amino acid 1 to amino acid 91 of protein M1, domain B1- is comprised of from amino acid 92 to amino acid 119 of protein M1, domain B2- is comprised of from amino acid 120 to amino acid 147 of protein M1, and domain S is comprised of from amino acid 154 to amino acid 190 of protein M1; or
- (iv) the E-, D-, A-, B- and C- domains in protein A, wherein domain E- is comprised of from amino acid 37 to amino acid 92 of protein A, domain D- is comprised of from amino acid 93 to amino acid 153 of protein A, domain A- is comprised of from amino acid 154 to amino acid 211 of protein A, domain B- is comprised of from amino acid 212 to amino acid 269 of protein A, and domain C- is comprised of from amino acid 270 to amino acid 327 of protein A.

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17. (pending) A hybrid protein according to claim 16, wherein the hybrid protein has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.
18. (pending) A reagent kit for binding, separating and identifying immunoglobulins, comprising a protein according to any one of claims 14, 15, 16 or 17, and a detection reagent.
19. (pending) A composition, comprising a protein according to any one of claims 14, 15, 16 or 17 in combination with an additive or carrier.
20. (withdrawn)
21. (currently amended) An isolated hybrid protein consisting essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.
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